



**FOCUS: 50 to 100
Research Town Hall**

November 6, 2007

Possible Questions for Research Town Hall

D R A F T

- 1) Has the campus as a whole internalized the identity of us becoming a research university? Which units have and have not? Why not?. How do we develop a culture of research across the campus?**

How do we develop a culture? Key ideas

Expectation

Rewards

Promotion and tenure

Communication

Incentive

Measurement

Benchmarking

There is not enough funding to support awards for undergraduate research and creative activity in those areas. Use our research-internal culture to recruit academically excellent high school seniors from Clark County School District to UNLV (rather than CSN)

- 2) How can we best motivate faculty and others to promote research as a central part of the institutional identity? What are the prime motivators for this to happen? Do we need to alter our hiring practices, and/or tenure, promotion, and merit system to support the university's research agenda?**

“Space: for research is more relevant to Science and Engineering, this conversation about research also needs to be directed also the needs of the Humanities, Liberal and Fine Arts.

Create internal networking opportunities for researchers to conduct multidisciplinary research

Celebrate research successes

Celebrate more acknowledgement research of faculty success –“attaboys”

Utilize faculty talents more effectively

Good use of resources

Hire a staff position to focus and target/promote funding opportunities

3) Should we have research priorities? If so, what should be our research priorities and why?

“Scholarship” should be our general category/being inclusive of creative research and creative activity.

4) Should our research reflect the uniqueness and demands of our community, state, and region? How might we take advantage of this uniqueness and these demands? For example, how do we take advantage of our placement in the Mojave Desert in forming our research programs? How does our urbanism and its growth provide uniqueness opportunities for research? How does our tourism and entertainment provide us unique research opportunities?

Size of classes and teaching loads need to be reformed to allow faculty to teach advance students properly (have the time to edit student papers to fulfill our writing across the curriculum mandate)

4b. Appropriate teaching load to conduct their search more effective

Yes, we are a public university---should reflect our state and rural urban and resource including issues of sustainability as it relates to our state and distance is an important issue in Nevada.

5) What makes L V, state, and region such a great laboratory for research?

Newness of our population and the identity of what is a Nevadan and what do Nevadans want to be.

We don't replace good research faculty when they are reassigned to administrative positions—some people like Dr. Dickens sit on 33 committees. Neither Kate Hausbeck, Ron Smith and Associate Dean Andy Bell have not been replaced.

The administration must be responsible to helping departments retain their FTE.

6) How can we better communicate to each other our research interests and areas?

It's hard for departments to hire post docs. It's cumbersome with the paperwork.

Symposium series between UNLV and NSTeC
Internal research forms
Individual faculty level
Faculty collaborations
On-going research website
Faculty working groups
Succession of faculty research, related to research

7) How can we better publicize our research strengths and achievements to stakeholders, legislators, etc?

Enhance the funding for G.A. stipends.

8) How can we encourage transdisciplinary, interdisciplinary, and multidisciplinary research and why do these approaches matter for the university?

- Identify differences and educate about it.
- Multidisciplinary is to bring individuals from a discipline to contribute to a project
- Interdisciplinary-everybody has part-integrated and they share their discipline

Trans - "transformative"? Have no disciplines at all.

- Create structure for organized
Research units
 - Educate
 - Administrative
 - Faculty lines outside the silos

9) How can we encourage grant-writing? How can we encourage more competitive grants and contracts as opposed to Federally appropriated research (earmarks)?

10) Given the opportunities and hurdles we are currently experiencing at UNLV, what are our realistic prospects for becoming a top-tier research university?

Issues demand on teaching
Niche development
Board of Regents and state

Research agenda
Change myth of Las Vegas
Values are unique
Research topics relate to our location
Diversity

Decide what is out

11)How do we imbed research as part of both the undergraduate and graduate experience?

Go beyond focused area
Encourage research to students
Enhance the funding for G.A. stipends

12)How can our research focus on social justice?

Ethnographic studies
Inter-unit research
Know what other departments are doing
Get faculties out of their own offices

A) Center for the study of racial and class inequality

Have deans email chairs to identify what faculty might want to work on grants based in these centers.
Use Deans to apprise faculty of possible grants projects
Try to assemble Faculty who might want to work on it.

B) Conduct empirical studies and ethnographics in the community

We need to list a communications network, perhaps by keywords e.g. urban

We don't know about each other's research to form a team.

13)Given an emerging urban sustainability focus on campus, how can we best utilize this effort to stimulate our research enterprise? Can we use it to increase collaborative research with the community in ways that we have not been able to in the past?

How can faculty in different departments know what faculty in each colleges at UNLV are doing. For example: Inter-unit research on water, economics, culture, and social characteristics.

We need to create interdisciplinary research teams to be ready when the grants come. How do we build the urban sustainability clearinghouse for

ideas? How do we get faculty out of their offices in their own part research to get involved with the team?

Retention of good young faculty is crucial, but a collaborative work on major grant projects might encourage them to stay e.g. urban sustainability.